

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph 5 (starting on line 30) of page 10 of the Substitute Specification, with the following amended paragraph:

At each of the sides of the frame 8a, there is positioned a set of leaf springs 14 that are intended to bring about the maintenance of the fuel assembly below the upper core plate 3. Each of the sets of leaf springs 14 is fixed to the frame 8a of the end-piece in the region of a corner of the frame 8a, the fixing of the four sets of leaf springs being brought about in the region of two corners of the frame that are arranged along the second diagonal of the frame 8a perpendicular to the diagonal along which the engagement holes 12 for the pins 13 of the upper core plate are arranged.